

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 21, page 2 with the following paragraph:

The sealing system may also include one or more seal lands coupled to a turbine blade with an integral tip shroud and extending from a tip of the turbine blade toward a stationary shroud of the turbine engine. The seal land may be coupled to the turbine blade by sliding the seal land into a slot and by ~~peening~~ peening the seal land to keep the seal land from sliding out, by brazing the seal land onto the turbine blade shroud, or through any other appropriate connection method. The seal land may also have a curved configuration such that while the turbine engine is at rest, the seal land is curved and does not contact the shroud. The seal land may be curved such that the tip of the seal land may face into the gas flow, thereby enabling the seal land to deflect the incoming tip leakage flow upstream and thus, improve the effective sealing ability of the seal land. The seal land is adapted to straighten during operation of the turbine engine due to at least centrifugal forces such that the seal land is closer to the stationary shroud than when the turbine engine is in a resting state. In at least one embodiment, the seal land may be formed from two or more materials having different coefficients of thermal expansion. The seal land may be formed from a first material forming an outer perimeter of the seal land and from a second material forming an inner perimeter of the seal land. The second material forming the inner perimeter may have a

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coefficient of thermal expansion that is greater than coefficient of thermal expansion for the first material forming the outer perimeter. When heated, the second material extends a greater distance than the first material, which causes the seal land to straighten.

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